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Monographs should embody the results of unusually extensive and well-rounded original investigations, the usefulness of which would be diminished by publication in the form of a series of separate papers. Past experience suggests that the monograph is particularly appropriate for the presentation of a definitive study on the biology of a microbial group.

Members of the Editorial Board will welcome any suggestions of topics and authors, either from prospective authors or from others. Prospective authors are advised to discuss with the Editor the suitability of their proposed contribution. The preparation of a synopsis or topical outline is desirable, since it often elicits constructive suggestions from editorial consultants. In addition, a one or two paragraph statement detailing the aim, scope, and relevance of the topic to be reviewed must be included with the outline. A review cannot, of course, be finally accepted until the finished product has been examined.

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